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Page 6

represents an asparagine; wherein α represents from 0 to 9 amino acids, with the proviso that if there are more than 2 amino acids, they are joined by peptide bonds in consecutive order and have a sequence identical to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 beginning with the I at position 9 and extending therefrom in the amino terminal direction; wherein β represents from 0 to 334 amino acids, with the proviso that if there are more than 2 amino acids, they are joined by peptide bonds in consecutive order and have a sequence identical to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 beginning with the E at position 18 and extending therefrom in the carboxy terminal direction; wherein θ represents an amino group or an acetylated amino group; wherein λ represents a carboxyl group or an amidated carboxyl group; wherein all of α , Y, D, I, N, Y, Y, T, S and β are joined together by peptide bonds; further provided that at least two tyrosines in the compound are sulfated (SEQ ID NO: 15-26).

In the claims:

Please amend claim 1 as indicated below. Attached hereto as **Exhibit C** is a marked-up copy of the amended claim.

--1. A compound comprising the structure:



wherein each Y represents a tyrosine; each D represents an aspartic acid, each I represents an isoleucine; and each N represents an asparagine; wherein α represents from 0 to 9 amino acids, with the proviso that if there are more than 2 amino acids, they are joined by peptide bonds in consecutive order and have a sequence identical to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 beginning with the I at position